

Shafaq Organization takes first steps

Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – Less than two months after the birth of the Shafaq Organization, the first humanitarian organization founded by the people of Afghanistan, the members of the council have selected leaders, identified problems and are ready to get started.

The newly appointed department heads of the organization met at the house of Farid Shafaq, organization founder, to speak with Khbir Ahmmed, Bagram mayor, and Col. Christopher Pritchett, Bagram Air Base commander, to address issues and seek solutions.

“This meeting today will judge the

progress the organization has made in the past month,” said Pritchett. “My hope is that the council has appointed leaders to the areas of concern and that we will leave with some idea of what needs to be done and where.”

As Pritchett entered the room to begin the meeting, each member of the council took out their plan books, drawings, calculations and everything else they had been working on to show him they were ready to talk business.

The end result after weeks of meetings and deliberations was the establishment of six departments - education, finance, family affairs, medical, employment and agriculture.

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Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

Col. Christopher Pritchett, Bagram Air Base commander, meets with the newly appointed committee leaders of the Shafaq Organization to discuss plans for reconstruction and humanitarian assistance.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Adam Johnston, 455th Expeditionary Operations Group

Climbing high...

Two A-10 Thunderbolt IIs from the 455th Expeditionary Operations Group climb after takeoff against the backdrop of the snow-covered mountains of the Hindu Kush Friday. A-10s provide close-air support here for Army ground forces in the region as part of Operation Enduring Freedom and America's War on Terror.

‘Outlaws’ provide Kabul security

Marine Staff Sgt. Amy L. Forsythe
CJCMOTF PAO

KABUL, Afghanistan — When they departed their warm northeast community of Taunton, Mass. early July, the 772nd Military Police Company of the Massachusetts Army National Guard, set out for a deployment they knew was going to test their skills and challenge their readiness.

As the nation's oldest company-size unit, having been organized in 1638 in Taunton, Mass., the four platoons of the 772nd MP Co. took on one of Operation Enduring Freedom's biggest security challenges.

Known by their nickname as the “Outlaws,” it's no surprise that they were tasked with the grand responsibility providing per-

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World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



An aerial photo shows the gutted remains of The Station concert club.

At least 96 killed in inferno

WEST WARWICK, R.I. — Ninety-six people died Thursday in a fast-moving fire at a Rhode Island nightclub, Gov. Don Carcieri said Friday afternoon, adding that only a handful of the bodies have been identified.

With 35 people in critical and serious conditions, the governor said it would not surprise him if the death toll were to rise above 100.

Because some bodies are badly burned, Carcieri said, family members might have to wait for DNA testing to learn their loved ones' fate.

Dorothy Palazzo is searching for her cousin, who attended the music show at The Station concert club in West Warwick.

"We're hoping that he walks in that door," she said. "He's got a great wife, beautiful children waiting for him to walk through the door and come home."

Other families made the rounds of hospitals and morgues, several showing photographs of the missing in hopes that someone saw them escape the club.

Pyrotechnics used by the heavy metal band Great White ignited the inferno. Owners of the nightclub have said they did not know the band planned to use fireworks, but Great White lead singer Jack Russell said, "Our tour manager set that up with the club."

At least 187 injured people were taken to nearby hospitals, where 81 were admitted, the governor said. Ten were flown to the nearest burn centers in Massachusetts.

Mid-March target for U.N. vote

CRAWFORD, Texas — The Bush administration hopes that the U.N. Security Council will vote on a second resolution on Iraqi disarmament during the second week in March, a senior administration official said Friday.

The White House hopes to have work completed by the United States and Britain on a new resolution by Monday or Tuesday at the latest, the official said.

Chief U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix plans to address the council March 7 to update it on the progress of inspections. The White House expects a vote on the new resolution would take place the following week.

On Friday the United States and Britain worked on the language of the resolution, which is expected to emphasize international support for possible military action against Iraq, as they launched critical diplomatic efforts to gain the votes to pass it.

The resolution would pass only if nine of the 15 member nations of the Security Council support it, including all five permanent members, who have veto power. France, China and Russia, all permanent council members, have spoken out against military action.

NASA engineer warned of possible shuttle breach

WASHINGTON — A NASA safety engineer warned days before Columbia broke apart that he feared the shuttle was at risk for a devastating breach near its left wheel, and he suggested people in the space agency weren't adequately considering the threat.

"We can't imagine why getting information is being treated like the plague," the engineer wrote in one of a number of e-mails released Friday that describe greater concerns about Columbia's safety in the days before its breakup.

Robert Daugherty, an engineer at NASA's Langley research facility in Hampton, Va., did not indicate that he believed the breach would cause Columbia to break apart during its fiery descent. "No way to know, of course," he wrote.

But Daugherty warned in his e-mail on Jan. 29 about a possible breach near the seal of Columbia's wheel compartment that could have been caused by damage to the shuttle's thermal tiles there. He seemed mostly worried about the risks of pilots struggling to land Columbia with one or more tires damaged by extreme heat.

"It seems to me that if mission operations were to see both tire pressure indicators go to zero during entry, they would sure as hell want to know whether they should land with gear up, try to deploy the gear or go bailout," Daugherty wrote.

Turkey bases 'not yet a done deal'

ANKARA, Turkey — Although Turkish officials said a "broad agreement" to allow U.S. troops on Turkish soil for a possible war against Iraq was reached Friday, Secretary of State Colin Powell cautioned that "It is not yet a done deal."

"I think we have made some progress," Powell told reporters as he flew to Asia, according to Reuters. "It is not yet a done deal, but there has been progress in the last 12 hours."

"Our teams will be working intensively over the next two to three days to resolve these issues. They are difficult, but they should be resolvable, and if they are resolved, then we believe the possibility exists for the Turkish government to take this to their parliament early next week," Reuters quoted him as saying.

'Potter' film Dumbledore chosen

LOS ANGELES — "Harry Potter" has a new schoolmaster: Michael Gambon.

The Irish-born actor is replacing Richard Harris, who died last year, as Albus Dumbledore in the third installment of the "Harry Potter" series, Warner Bros. announced Friday.

"Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" is filming in England, and Gambon's casting had been a closely guarded secret. Others mentioned as possible candidates for the role included Christopher Lee, Ian McKellen and Peter O'Toole, who had a longtime friendship with Harris.



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

Khbir Ahmmed, Bagram Mayor, reads a document that explains all of the newly appointed Shafaq Organization committee members' qualifications, credentials and experience. The organization is scheduled to begin humanitarian work throughout numerous villages today.

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A chairman was appointed to oversee each area.

Other issues were lack of food, clean water, seeds for crop cultivation and financial assistance for the widowed and disabled.

Even though the council addressed numerous problems, they did offer some solutions.

As of today, the council will be able to begin work on these areas with about 15,000

Afghanis or approximately \$350 U.S. saved from donations, according to the chairman of the finance department.

In addition, the head of the employment department said there are plenty of men ready and willing to work to bring money back into the community as long as the U.S. can supply jobs.

Pritchett assured the employment department that jobs were available at the Post Exchange and would soon be available at the barber shop scheduled to open in March.

"We need reliable and responsible people to occupy these positions," said Pritchett. "I want to see these jobs go to the people of Bagram before they go to anyone else."

Pritchett congratulated the committee on their ability to unify and identify their problems and said it was just what the U.S. needed to begin helping them rebuild.

"Afghanistan will soon be moving into phase IV of the reconstruction phase," said Pritchett. "Presently Provisional Reconstruction Teams have been assigned to Gardez, Bamain and soon the Bagram area for the sole purpose of rebuilding the country."

Pritchett said this organization is a great way to get things started.

"Until these reconstruction teams can offer more help, this organization will sustain many villages and help them continue the rebuilding process," said Pritchett. "The U.S. will also work closely with the council members to offer all the assistance we can until the teams can do more."

At the end of the meeting, the departments handed over their proposals and data to Pritchett for further review. Pritchett will return in a week to inform the villages of what the U.S. can do for them both short and long term.

"I was very impressed with the outcome today," said Pritchett. "Their eagerness to find solutions to problems and work together shows they are serious about helping each other. This makes it easier for the U.S. to help them."

Smoothing things out...

Afghans grade the dirt on Disney Road. The Afghans are contracted to improve Disney by smoothing the road and filling in the pot-holes.



Photos by Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

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sonnel and perimeter security at the Coalition Joint Civil-Military Task Force compound, the Kabul Military Training Center and Bagram Air Base in the war-torn country of Afghanistan. They're one of the most highly decorated military units in the Army and their rich lineage dates back to participation in the Revolutionary War with subsequent activation in the Civil War, World War II and the Persian Gulf War.

After their month-long mobilization process was completed at Fort Drum, NY, the company, touted as "America's First," with all of their gear boarded military planes bound for Bagram Air Base.

Sgt. John A. Dankievitch, team leader for 2nd platoon, recalls that day as being filled with a tremendous amount of excitement and anxiety.

"Many of those in the company had never been on a real-world deployment before and were naturally nervous about the uncertainty and dangerous nature of being deployed to Afghanistan," he said.

Once they arrived in mid-August, the company was divided up by platoons to cover Bagram Air Base, KMTC and CJCMOTF. The CJCMOTF compound, which is centrally located on two city blocks in heart of Afghanistan's capitol city of Kabul, is in close proximity to most of the national government's ministry offices, foreign military compounds and non-governmental organization's headquarters.

Before 2nd platoon had their bags unpacked, they began assessing the needs of the compound to ensure its overall safety. Consequently, this non-traditional living and work space is located in a notoriously dangerous area with warlords living in and controlling nearby city blocks.

"One of the most unique things we've had to deal with has been keeping the balance between the local warlords," Dankievitch said. That's something they never expected, nor had been trained to deal with. "It's mostly common sense and quick thinking that has quelled any potential incidents," he said.

And there have been tense moments that he will always remember but luckily for most of the platoon, they have worked, or are cur-

rently employed in the law enforcement field. Many of the situations needing a quick, level-headed response were solved professionally and without incident, he added.

Dankievitch works as a correction officer at the Massachusetts Treatment Center in Bridgewater, Mass. Through his training he has gained an extensive background in firearms, close quarters battle tactics, and interaction with hostile individuals.

"He brings a vast amount of knowledge to our unit from his training from state law enforcement courses," said 1st Lt. Jason Oberton, platoon leader from Sterling, Mass.

Because the compound is located in such a highly populated and urban area, the MP's must maintain close control of personnel and equipment moving on and off the compound. Every time servicemembers enter or leave the compound, they must request in writing permission to leave, report where they are going and the nature of their outing. It's the MPs on duty who must track their departure and arrival to ensure maximum accountability for the personnel on the compound. Additionally, anyone wishing to visit or come onto the compound must be thoroughly screened and searched before they are allowed access.

The compound was established in February 2002 to support the Civil Affairs mission that was directed by the U.S. Central Command in an effort to help Afghanistan in rebuilding efforts. The compound's central location is key to its success because the civil affairs soldiers can get to and from project sites with ease, local media can inquire about newsworthy events, non-governmental and international organizations' representatives can make face-to-face contact with someone from CJCMOTF.

Besides guarding the neighborhood-like



Photos by Marine Staff Sgt. Army Forsythe, CJCMOTF PAO

Spc. John White, from Walpole, Mass., demonstrates his emergency life saving skills as he assists a "victim" out of danger during an anti-terrorism base defense plan exercise Feb. 14.



Staff Sgt. Earl Johnson, of Quincy, Mass., uses his radio to verify and relay information during an anti-terrorism base defense plan exercise Feb. 14. The MPs rely heavily on radio communications to verify vehicle and foot movement on and off the compound.

compound that houses approximately 300 servicemembers, the combat MPs, all of whom are reservists, support many additional

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FREEDOM'S VOICES

Keep home locked in your heart

Just my Opinion

Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke
11th Public Affairs
Detachment



Home — it's normally a term used when people are referring to the place they grew up, they currently reside or sometimes, "where the heart is."

It seems difficult to imagine a soldier deployed to a country in declaration of war to even consider it a place of homely value, but if I look into the eyes of the people in uniform every day, I see they are making the best of the situation they are in.

"It is all in what you make it." "You get what you put into it." "Just think positive." These are all phrases people will tell you to get through any unwanted situation.

I can see the military and civilians here are doing their best at living by these simple words of wisdom.

I can see it in the actions of the hard work the personnel put in every day by working 10, 12 even 17-hour days. Their mission is consistently striving for success.

Don't get me wrong though; I like my American apple pies and baseball games, but I am definitely growing accustomed to the environment I volunteered for.

With the help of my eyes letting me see that I have much more than what I am viewing, I will get through because I know I am not alone.

Over 14,000 people are assigned at Bagram. Everyone has family and friends who are missed, but they all know they came on a mission.

And to fill any free time they may have, many go to the chapel; some spend countless hours reading

books while others just consume themselves in their work.

My advice to a soldier here is to keep a daily mental memo of his fortune and remember he is lucky to not have this way of life as his mainstay - it is only a tour of duty.

So even if we don't fancy this country as our humble abode, we are all trying to make the best of the experience.

Keeping home locked in our hearts will help get us through this temporary, yet honorable responsibility.

"It is all in what you make it." "You get what you put in to it." "Just think positive." These are all phrases people will tell you to get through any unwanted situation.

STREET TALK

What do you do to make being deployed more bearable?



"I do artwork. The main chapel designs have already been approved. It's called Faith Chapel."

Spc. Charles Scott
Task Force-44, 48th CSH
Fort Meade, Md.



"I exercise often and write letters to my mom."

Pfc. Carlos Perez
118th MP Co.
Fort Bragg, N.C.



"I respond to letters that kids send to soldiers and I go to the gym."

Senior Airman Robert Soto
455th Expeditionary
Operations Group
Moody Air Force Base, Ga.



"I mostly try to go to the gym and work out. I read a lot of books."

Master Sgt. Laura Fludd
229th Aviation MP Co.
Fort Bragg, N.C.

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CJTF-180 Commander —

Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill

CJTF-180 Command Sergeant Major —

Command Sgt. Maj. Steven R. England

Public Affairs Officer —

Col. Roger King

Public Affairs Sergeant Major —

Master Sgt. Kelly Tyler

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Commander — Maj. William Mott

NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti

Editor — Sgt. W. Cullen James

Journalists — Pfc. Christina Carde,

Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw, Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke

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Photo by Marine Staff Sgt. Amy Forsythe, CJCMOTF PAO

Sgt. John Dankievitch, of Fall River, Mass., shoots from the kneeling position during live-fire sustainment training at the Kabul Military Training Center's rifle range.

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missions requiring them to leave the security of the compound and venture out into the uncertainty of traveling throughout the city and beyond. In addition to guarding the main checkpoint 24-hours a day, seven-days a week, they man several observation points throughout the compound. But their

security duties aren't limited to just inside the compound.

They play an integral part the CJCMOTF mission accomplishment by providing convoy security, establishing en route checkpoints, escorting VIPs and fielding personal security detachments for general officers.

"They are a real asset and without them we'd be paralyzed because a majority of our movement within the country relies on their force protection," said Maj. Thomas Schmitz, civil affairs officer from Rochester, NY. In a city still regarded as unstable, they are the first line of defense in protecting us while we sleep at night, he added.

In addition to establishing a secure environment for the civil affairs soldiers to conduct business and sleep safe at night, 2nd platoon has implemented several improvements to guard the security of those living here. For example, when they arrived seven months ago, the main entry for personnel and vehicles was facing an open and busy thoroughfare street. They immediately shut down thru traffic and established weaving road blocks, called 'serpentine,' to limit access and slow down any vehicle traffic approaching the entrance to the compound.

They also recently installed a metal de-

tector for the main passageway for foot traffic. This was to better monitor the scores of local nationals contracted by the U.S. government as interpreters, drivers, laborers, etc. Recently, the MP's streamlined a mass casualty exercise testing soldiers assigned as combat lifesavers on readiness skills during an Anti-Terrorism Base Defense Plan Exercise.

The MPs, medical personnel and other participating units coordinated efforts in reacting to a simulated car bomb explosion in the motor pool resulting in 20 simulated casualties.

As the 772nd MP Co. begins packing their bags to head back to the snow-covered streets of their New England suburbs, they can attribute many of the safety procedures currently in place at the CJCMOTF compound to junior soldiers' initiative, keen situational awareness and overall knowledge of law enforcement strategies, said Oberton.

"Our platoon conducted and completed the mission professionally, honorably and tactically sound, especially in the dangerous times of random bombings, shootings and mortar fire near and around the compound and while out on missions," Dankievitch concluded.

Black History Month

February is Black History Month. In light of all the accomplishments made by African-Americans, every day this month the *Freedom Watch* will highlight an individual.

Maurice F. Rabb, Jr., Ophthalmologist

Born: 8/7/32 **Birthplace:** Kentucky

Born in Kentucky, Maurice Rabb earned a B.S. in 1954, and an M.D. in 1958 from the University of Louisville. In an impressive medical career, Rabb has served as director of the Illinois Eye Bank and Research Laboratory of the University of Illinois Medical School and as director of the Fluorescein Angiography Laboratory at the Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago.

In addition he has worked as co-director of the Sickle Cell Center at the University of Illinois Medical Center, and did a stint as chief of ophthalmology at Mercy Hospital in Chicago. Rabb has also received awards in 1962 and 1964 for photographic work concentrating on the physiology of the inner eye.

When the siren sounds...

Every evening a siren is heard throughout the air base for about 15 seconds. At that time, soldiers may be confused as to whether or not what they are hearing is an actual drill, attack or only at test.

Everyday at 1430Z, the siren will sound for 15 seconds. This is to test the siren to make sure it is functional. In this instance, troops should not be alarmed and should go about their business.

If there is a drill, each servicemember's chain of command will have been notified and should give them the proper information. Additionally, a voice will be heard on the loud speaker in conjunction with the siren to alert troops of the exercise.

In the case of an actual attack, the siren will be heard continuously for a period of three minutes. The voice will then give the message "red alert" and troops should then proceed to the nearest bunker or hard structure.

Any time the siren is heard and troops are confused on what to do, they should see their chain of command to receive access to the correct information.



Pendleton home to trailblazing aviator

By John Raifsnider
Camp Pendleton PAO

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — Those who have spent enough time with 1st Lt. Vernice Armour will tell you there are two distinctive sides to the 29-year-old Marine Corps officer. One is an intensely competitive, openly confident athlete; the other is a quiet but self-assured Super Cobra pilot.

In the latter capacity, Armour is a high-flying example of social progressiveness in the U.S. military — the first-ever African-American female combat pilot. But most people don't realize it amid her quiet composure.

As an athlete, Armour is one of Camp Pendleton's most notorious — having won back-to-back titles in the female division at the annual Strongest Warrior competition in 2001 and '02, and ultimately the base's 2001 Female Athlete of the Year Award.

For good measure, the multi-sport athlete played running back for the San Diego Sunfire women's professional football team during the 2001 season.

During athletic competitions, Armour, a Memphis, Tenn., native, is anything but demur.

By contrast, in her role as a Marine, Armour is an altogether different person. The confidence is still there, but she is much more reserved in her approach to her job.

For Armour, competing for sports trophies is fun stuff. But flying missions for Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 is strictly serious business - especially with the clock counting down to deployment and her first potential date with combat.

Although she admits to being nervous about the possibility of going to war, Armour says her training has thoroughly prepared her for impending conflict.

"It's OK to be a little nervous," Armour



Photo by Marine Lance Cpl. Jeremy M. Vought

Marine 1st Lt. Vernice Armour, a Super Cobra pilot with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169, is the Department of Defense's first female African-American combat pilot. Armour earned her wings July 2001.

says. "When the time comes, we'll all be prepared for whatever we have to do — that's what we've been training for."

After graduating from Middle Tennessee State University in 1997, Armour, fresh off a stint as an Army reservist, joined the Marines in October 1998 - "to be in the best fighting organization in the world." She was "winged" in early July 2001 and arrived at Camp Pendleton later that same month.

In March 2002, Armour earned distinction as the Department of Defense's lone African-American female combat pilot and was assigned to HMLA-169.

Armour says being a Marine has "been a great experience" that has "helped build my sense of independence, my leadership abilities and self-reliance."

Armour's broad shoulders not only carry the weight of being a part of U.S. military history, but also of a role model for future generations who will follow in her boot tracks.

She says her trailblazing career has come without any special help or hindrances.

"I haven't been treated any differently or received any more special attention than anybody else just because I'm an African-American or because I'm a woman," says Armour. "The training I've received is the same as my male counterparts, and I've advanced through the (flight training) program just the same as everyone else."

"I don't look at this on the basis of gender or color. I'm a Marine Corps officer first, then I try to be the best officer that I can, and try to take care of the Marines in my charge the best way I can," added Armour, who expects to pin on captain's bars in April.

Armour hasn't shrunk away from her role model status.

"I've put more pressure on myself because I want to succeed, and I want to be the best that I can be. I realize that I'm a role

Chaplain's corner

By Chap. (Maj.) Marvin Luckie
CTF-82 Chaplain

When the man calling cadence says "Right face, forward march," the soldier is expected to turn right and start moving. Especially in wartime, the soldier must hear and understand commands.

In the ancient world, a battle trumpet was used to amass forces to, around, and from the battlefield. The *salpigg*, sometimes translated "bugle," sounded high, clear notes that could be heard above the tumult of conflict, when voice commands would have been

impossible to hear. From anywhere in the field, the soldier could hear the trumpet and identify its command.

The Christian soldier must have clear communication to direct them through the tumult of life.

Like any combat communication, it must be simple and direct; above all, it must be



Chap. (Maj.) Marvin Luckie

understood. Somehow, the Word of God has to cut through all the garbage and all the tangles and all the confusion of modern life to clarify issues for the believer.

If the issues of life are not clarified, the believer will fall casualty in the battle. To successfully meet and defeat the enemy, the Christian soldier must understand where he is in history, his purpose in God's program, and the assets and the equipment that are his.

Come and join us as we dig a little deeper into the Word, The Trumpet, instructor, instructions, plan, objective and the danger.



Music Notes (Compiled from MTV.com)

Woman claims R. Kelly sexually assaulted her in studio

As R. Kelly's *Chocolate Factory* was hitting store shelves this week, the singer was being hit with new allegations of sexual abuse, this time from a 24-year-old woman who said he assaulted her in a Chicago recording studio Tuesday.

Police said they're investigating the complaint, but the Cook County state's

attorney's office, currently preparing for trial on Kelly's 21 counts of child pornography, said no charges have been filed.

Road to the Grammys: The making of Nelly's 'Dilemma'

Nelly had just finished *Nellyville* when an unknown St. Louis producer by the name of Bam handed him a skeleton track sampling Patti LaBelle's "Love, Need and Want You."

"I heard the beat and started playing around with it, writing stuff," Nelly recalled

last fall. "And then I wrote the whole song out."

Nelly liked what he was hearing and decided to make it a last-minute addition to his album. Once he returned to the studio, his vision for the song changed. "I thought, 'Whoa, I need a girl for this!'"

The rapper instantly thought of a friend he met on the "TRL" tour the year before. "He wanted Kelly [Rowland] from the beginning," Nelly's manager, Tony Davis, said. "He had in mind what kind of sound he was looking for."

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model, and there's more pressure with that, because I do want to set the right example for young people out there, whether they are a boy or a girl, or whether they are black or white. There is more pressure when you try to do that, because you always want to make sure that you are doing the right thing."

Despite the added pressure, Armour welcomes the challenge of both combat aviation and her social-icon status.

"I do want to be that positive role model, I relish it," she says.

"If you do what average people do, you have what average people have. I don't ever want to be average. That's what I challenge kids to do — be better than average."

Lt. Col. Lloyd Wright, HMLA-169's executive officer, acknowledges that Armour, like

anyone else who can make the grade as a Marine combat pilot, is anything but average.

"To be a Marine Corps pilot, you have to work hard and have dedication to your goals; obviously, Lt. Armour is a good example of that," says Wright.

Armour is almost euphoric when describing training to become a Super Cobra pilot.

"It's been great — just awesome," she says, noting her squadron's time spent on developing warfighting skills may soon come to the test.

"We're ready. We train for this every day — to protect our nation and its freedoms — and right now we're getting ready to do just that. Some people who have had a 20-year career have never had the opportunity to do what we're about to do."

Wright confirmed Armour is ready to put her training to the test.

"Lt. Armour, just as every Marine here in this squadron, has worked hard over the last few months to train for this," Wright said. "She is anxious to validate the traits and capabilities and combat tasks she has learned."

Before heading off to parts unknown, Armour offered this bit of advice to the nation's young men and women:

"Don't let anyone dash your hopes and dreams. Decide what and where you want to be and take positive steps to get there," she said.

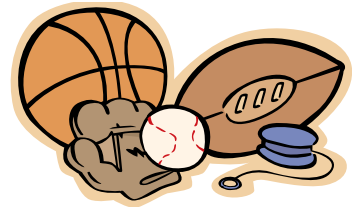
"Research what it is you want to do, take an interest in it and go for it. Work hard to keep your dreams alive."

Armour also offered her fellow Marines some advice:

"Stay the course," she said. "Be true to yourself and the Corps, and make the right decisions to get where you want to be."

Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)



Versatile Bucks difficult to defend

ESPN — The Bucks just became very, *very* hard to guard.

Mismatches are what keep coaches up nights. And Milwaukee, now, has a half-dozen problems for you to solve. The Bucks will never be stoppers; it's not in their nature. But they're now Mavericks East, a team that can send waves of shooters *and* scorers at you. Getting 105 a night should be no sweat now for George Karl and Company; a first-round series with the Bucks is now a daunting prospect.

This does not mean a title is coming Milwaukee's way, because the Bucks still have frontcourt and defensive issues. Nor is this a diss of Ray Allen, as classy a kid who walks the hardwood these days. But adding an all-pro in Gary Payton and an up-and-coming high flier like Desmond Mason makes what was already a very good offensive team into one that should be unstoppable.

Think about what Karl can put on the floor. He can go conventional and start Payton and Michael Redd, and Tim Thomas, with Mason and Sam Cassell and Toni Kukoc coming off the bench. He can start Cassell and Payton in the backcourt, because GP can play two as well as one, and may extend his career playing next to a true ballhandler like Cassell, along with Thomas, and bring Redd and Desmond Mason off the bench with Kukoc. Or he could start Redd at the three, and move Thomas down to power forward, and bring Anthony Mason off the bench. Or he could go really small and play Thomas at the five, alongside Cassell, Redd, Desmond Mason and Payton.

What do you do if Payton and Thomas run screen-and-roll, with Cassell on the weak side and Redd in the corner? Or if Cassell — the best post-up point in the game today — goes to the low block, with Payton cutting off of him? Or if Karl runs two-guard fronts with Desmond Mason and Payton, or Payton and Redd? The possibilities are numerous. Who do you leave to double-team?

What I also like about this deal for Milwaukee is that the Bucks should now be a better defensive team as well. They can sic Payton on Jason Kidd, or Reggie Miller, or Baron Davis, or Rip Hamilton, or any other guard in the East who could get hot come playoff time. They can put Desmond Mason on the high-flying, athletic threes like Richard Jefferson, or Jamal Mashburn, or Tracy McGrady, if Thomas gets in foul trouble. And the Bucks were able to maintain what size they do have in Ervin Johnson, Anthony Mason and Jason Caffey.

But what's most intriguing is that Milwaukee now has some

very desirable pieces to put together this summer. I can't believe that Ernie Grunfeld and company would pull the trigger on this deal

without having some kind of understanding of what it will take to re-sign Payton, and that won't be cheap. Given owner Herb Kohl's desire not to pay tax, the Bucks will almost certainly have to move some of these guys. But if Payton's safely in the fold for the next three or four years (and you have to imagine he'll take less than the \$14.6 million that Milwaukee would have had to pay Allen and Kevin Ollie next season), Cassell (a modest \$17.4 million total due the last three years of his deal) and Redd (\$9 million over the next three) or Kukoc (one year left, at \$8.7 million) could all be succulent trade bait.

And the Bucks have Atlanta's first-rounder unless it's one, two or three in the Lottery!

Things could be very interesting at Major Goolsby's the next few years.



Gary Payton gives George Karl a lot of options on offense.

McGrady scores career-high 52

ORLANDO, Fla. — Tracy McGrady scored a career-high 52 points in three quarters and Drew Gooden added 22 points and 11 rebounds in his Orlando debut as the Magic defeated Chicago 110-96 Friday night.

McGrady was 15-of-32 from the field and 16-for-20 from the line to eclipse the 50 points he scored last season against Washington. McGrady finished one point shy of the franchise record of 53 set by Shaquille O'Neal in 1993-94.

See **SPORTS**, Page B4

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building:
"Extreme Ops." While filming a
advertisement, some extreme sports
enthusiasts unwittingly stop a
group of terrorists.

Tomorrow's movie will be
"Frailty."



SPORTS, from Page B3

McGrady, who sat out the entire fourth quarter, also came up a point short of Allan Houston's NBA season-high of 53.

Gooden shot 11-of-16 from the field, and Orlando's other newcomer, Gordan Giricek, had 15 points. Orlando acquired Giricek and Gooden from Memphis on Wednesday for Mike Miller, Ryan Humphrey and future draft picks.

Orlando coach Doc Rivers wasted no time acclimating his new players to the team, starting both. Gooden logged 34 minutes while Giricek played 43.

Gooden adapted to his new surroundings early, scoring 10 first-quarter points, including eight consecutive for the Magic.

Orlando led 96-75 after three quarters and Chicago never threatened with McGrady watching from the sidelines, smiling as fans screamed for Rivers to put him back in the game.

The Bulls outshot the Magic 46 percent to 42 percent but committed 25 turnovers that Orlando converted into 28 points. Jay Williams led Chicago with 20 points. Jalen Rose and Tyson Chandler had 16 each.

McGrady shot 5-of-10 in each of the first two quarters and was 10-for-11 from the line for 33 points at the half.

Solution from Saturday's Hip-Hop Crossword in the *Freedom Watch*

(Courtesy of infoplease.com)



2002 NBA standings

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

(2) New Jersey	37-19
(4) Boston	31-24
(5) Philadelphia	30-24
(8) Orlando	27-29
Washington	26-28

Central

(1) Detroit	37-17
(3) Indiana	37-18
(6) New Orleans	30-27
(7) Milwaukee	27-25
Atlanta	20-34



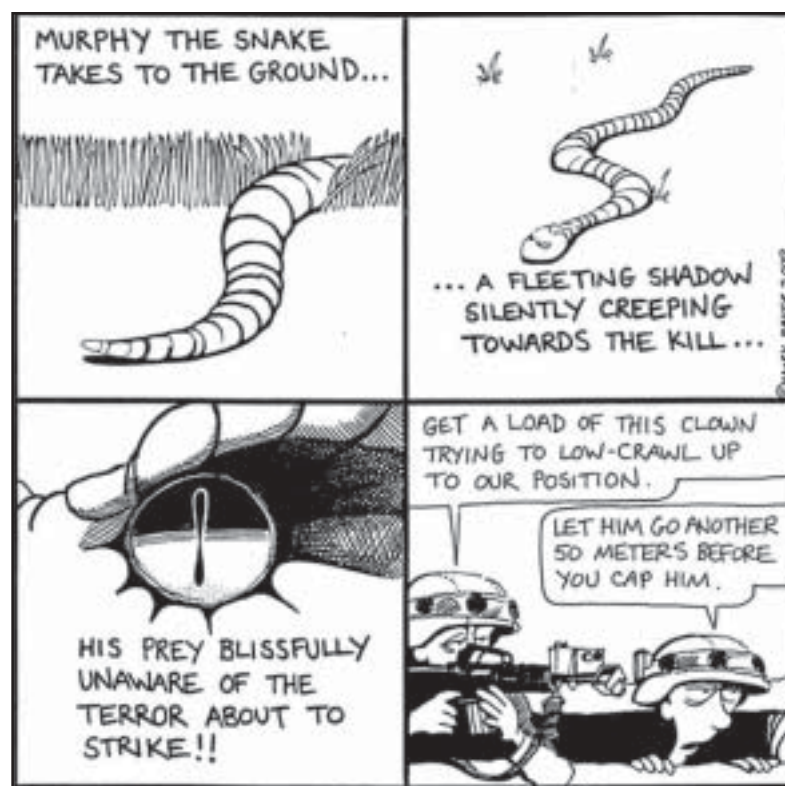
Western Conference

Midwest

(1) Dallas	43-12
(3) San Antonio	37-17
(5) Minnesota	35-21
(6) Utah	32-22
Houston	28-26

Pacific

(2) Sacramento	38-18
(4) Portland	35-18
(7) Phoenix	30-25
(8) L.A. Lakers	28-25
Golden State	24-30



By Mark Baker

Pvt. Murphy's Law

Kandahar chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0500Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 0630Z — Protestant worship
- ❖ 0830Z — Latter-Day Saints worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel service

Monday

- ❖ 1130Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel choir practice

Tuesday

- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox/Catholic Bible study
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 1130Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant mid-week service

Thursday

- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Bible study

Friday

- ❖ 0830Z — Islamic Jumaa'h prayer
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian hymn service
- ❖ 1430Z — Jewish prayer

Saturday

- ❖ 0530Z — Seventh-Day Adventist worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian Divine Liturgy
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Choir practice

Bagram chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0500Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 0630Z — Protestant worship
- ❖ 0830Z — Latter-Day Saints worship
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel service

Monday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers

Tuesday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 0700Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant mid-week service

Thursday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Bible study

Friday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 0830Z — Islamic Jumaa'h prayer
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian hymn service
- ❖ 1430Z — Jewish prayer

Saturday

- ❖ 0530Z — Seventh-Day Adventist worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian Divine Liturgy
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Choir practice
- ❖ 1500Z — Rosary and prayers

K2 chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0330Z — Liturgical service
- ❖ 0430Z, 1200Z — General protestant service
- ❖ 0600Z — Roman Catholic Mass
- ❖ 1300Z — Latter Day Saints

Monday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass

Tuesday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Midweek Praise service

Thursday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass

Friday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study

Saturday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1200Z — Roman Catholic Mass

CJCMOTF chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0630Z — Nondenominational service

Tuesday

- ❖ 1430Z — Catholic service (every other Tuesday)

Wednesday

- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study



Bagram

K2

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Hi — 56F
Lo — 36F



Hi — 48F
Lo — 30F



Hi — 72F
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Monday



Hi — 48F
Lo — 25F



Hi — 42F
Lo — 32F



Hi — 43F
Lo — 27F



Hi — 54F
Lo — 37F

KMTC chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0430Z — Protestant Service
- ❖ 0530Z — Roman Catholic Mass/Eucharist
- ❖ 0630Z — Latter Day Saints
- ❖ 1630Z — Protestant Service

Wednesday

- ❖ 1430Z — Bible Study

Friday

- ❖ 1530Z — Thank God It's Friday fellowship and singing

All events are held in FOB195
Chapel/Conference Room area.